

Remarks:

1. Claims 1 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2001/0032633 to Bircann et al.
 - a. Applicant has combined the limitations of claim 1 and claim 3 into amended claim 3 per the Examiner's statement of Allowable Subject Matter.
 - b. Applicant has combined the limitations of claim 18 and claim 21 into amended claim 21 per the Examiner's statement of Allowable Subject Matter.
 - c. Claims 4-8 and 22-26 depend from one of the newly amended claims and for at least the reasons cited above should now be in condition for allowance.
2. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,142,282 to Rudisil et al. in view of Bircann et al.
 - a. Applicant has combined the limitations of claim 9 and claim 12 into amended claim 12 per the Examiner's statement of Allowable Subject Matter.
 - b. Claims 13-17 depend from newly amended claim 12 and for at least the reasons cited above should now be in condition for allowance.

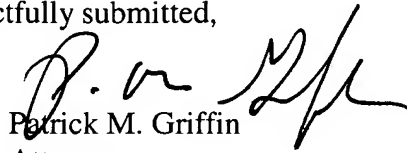
Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the instant application and now look forward to a timely notice of allowance.

Appl. No. 10/632,280
Amdt. Dated
Reply to Final Action dated August 28, 2006

Although no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit
Account No. 50-0831 for any fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. M. Griffin", is written over the printed name.

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Date: